

10/653958



Attorney's Docket No. S1022/7556

DMD/JHM

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant: Serge PONTAROLLO
Serial No.: Herewith
Filing Date: Herewith
For: CLAMP

#4

R.T.

8/24/96

Examiner: Unassigned
Art Unit: Unassigned

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STATEMENT FILED PURSUANT TO THE DUTY OF
DISCLOSURE UNDER 37 CFR §§1.56, 1.97 AND 1.98

Sir:

Pursuant to the duty of disclosure under 37 C.F.R. §§1.56, 1.97 and 1.98, the Applicant requests consideration of this Information Disclosure Statement.

PART I: Compliance with 37 C.F.R. §1.97

This Information Disclosure Statement has been filed within three months of the filing date of a National Application. No fee or certification is required.

PART II - Information Cited

The Applicant hereby makes of record in the above-identified application the information listed on the attached form PTO-1449 (modified). The order of presentation of the references should not be construed as an indication of the importance of the references.

The Applicant hereby makes the following additional information of record in the above-identified application:

The examiner's attention is hereby drawn to the attached French Search Report. As shown in the patent family search attached to the search report, U.S. Patent No. 5,345,357 corresponds to document EP-A-0 575 062, U.S. Patent Nos. 5,400,202 and 5,452,171 correspond to document GB-A- 2 268 007, and U.S. Patent No. 5,239,440 corresponds to document EP-A-0 435 047, all cited in the French Search Report.

REMARKS

A copy of each of the above-identified information is enclosed unless otherwise indicated on the attached form PTO-1449 (modified). It is respectfully requested that:

1. The Examiner consider completely the cited information, along with any other information, in reaching a determination concerning the patentability of the present claims;
2. The enclosed form PTO-1449 be signed by the Examiner to evidence that the cited information has been fully considered by the Patent and Trademark Office during the examination of this application;

3. The citations for the information be printed on any patent which issues from this application.

By submitting this Information Disclosure Statement, the Applicant(s) makes no representation that a search has been performed, of the extent of any search performed, or that more relevant information does not exist.

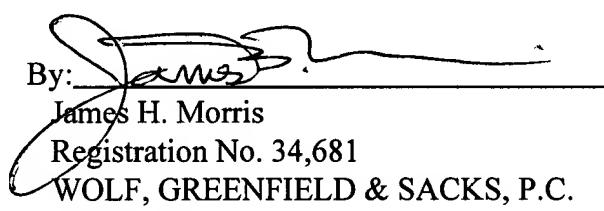
By submitting this Information Disclosure Statement, the Applicant(s) makes no representation that the information cited in the Statement is, or is considered to be, material to patentability as defined in 37 C.F.R. §1.56(b).

By submitting this Information Disclosure Statement, the Applicant(s) makes no representation that the information cited in the Statement is, or is considered to be, in fact, prior art as defined by 35 U.S.C. §102.

Notwithstanding any statements by the Applicant(s), the Examiner is urged to form his or her own conclusion regarding the relevance of the cited information.

An early and favorable action is hereby requested.

Respectfully submitted,

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Dated: May 22, 1996